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MAZAMA, Vol. 1, No. 2, Oct. 1897

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THE NAME MAZAMA AND NAMES OF THE MOUNTAIN GOAT.

By C. Hart Merriam.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 18, 1897.

REV. EARL M. WILBUR,

Secretary MAZAMAS.

DEAR MR. WILBUR:

The information you wanted and which I promised you about the use of the name "Mazama," has proved a little more difficult to get together than I expected, and what I am sending you must be regarded as incomplete, though the synonymy accompanying is probably sufficient for your purpose. I am indebted to my assistant, Dr. T. S. Palmer, for assistance in this matter.

The uses of the word "Mazama" as a scientific name are as follows: In September, *1817*, it was published by Rafinesque in the American Monthly Magazine for a *genus* of South American deer. This being the first use of the name in a generic sense, it must stand, and cannot be used for any other genus, although it has been proposed for at least two others. Thus in *1837* it was applied by Ogilby to our North American antelope, and in *1850* by Gray to our Mountain Goat.

In *1827* it was used for a *subgenus* of deer by Hamilton Smith, and in the same year was used as a *specific name* for a species of "ovine antelope" named *Aplocerus mazama*, said to occur in the rocky forests and mountains of tropical America. What this animal is we do not know—possibly the Pudu. Going back to pre-Linnæan days, Klein (in 1751) speaks of a *Tragulus mazame*, and Seba of a *Tragulus temamaçama*.

The use of the word "Mazama" as a common or vernacular name seems to date from Fernandez in 1651. Mazame and Maçame are the forms used, and the name seems to have been applied to a Mexican deer or antelope, perhaps both. Lichtenstein, in a paper on Fernandez' Mammals, states that *Mazame or Maçame* is the plural of *Maçatl*, deer.

"Mazame" was used by Buffon, d'Azara, and others the latter part of the last and beginning of the present century, but in all cases seems to have been based on Fernandez. Doubtless many other references might be added, but pre-Linnæan literature is hardly in our line, and the necessary books are not at hand.

Very truly yours,

C. HART MERRIAM.

LIST OF SCIENTIFIC NAMES APPLIED TO THE MOUNTAIN GOAT (*Oreamnos Montanus*).*

1815. *Ovis montana* Ord, Guthrie's Geog., II. 292, 309.

1816. *Antilope* (*Rupicapra*) *americana* Blainville, Nouv. Bull. Soc. Philom., 73, 80.

1817. *Oreamnos* † Rafinesque, Am. Monthly Mag., II.44.

1817. *Mazama ovina* Raf., Am. Monthly Mag., I.437.

1817. *Mazama sericea* Raf., Am. Monthly Mag., II.44.

1817. *Mazama dorsata* Raf., Am. Monthly Mag., II.44.

1818. *Rupicapra americana* Ord, Journ. de Phys., LXXXVII. 146-155.

1822. *Antilope americana* Desm. Mamm., II.478.

1822. *Antilope lanigera* H. Smith, Linn. Trans., London, XIII. 38, pl. IV.

1823. *Capra columbiana* Desmoulins, Dict. Classique d'Hist. Nat., III. 580.

1824. *Antilope lanata* H. Smith, Ferussac, Bull. Sci. Nat., 375.

1825. *Capra montana* Harlan, Fauna Am., 253.

1827. *Antilope* (*Aplocerus*) *lanigera* H. Smith, Griffith's Cuvier, V. 354.

1827. *Antilope* (*Aplocerus*) *mazama* H. Smith, Griffith's Cuvier, V. 354.

1829. *Capra americana* Rich., Fauna Bor., 268, pl. XXII.

1829. *Capra* (?) *columbiana* Fischer, Synop. Mamm. 1829, 487.

1835. *Aplocerus* Swainson, Nat. Hist. & Class Quad., 380.

1843. *Antilope* (*Haplocerus*) *lanigera* Wagner, Suppl. Schreber's Saugth. 462.

1845. *Capra lanigera* Schinz, Synop. Mamm., II. 468-469.

1850. *Mazama americana* Gray, Knowsley Menag., 19.

1850. *Aplocerus americanus* Turner, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 174.

1852. *Aplocerus montanus* Richardson, Zool. Herald, Foss. Mamm., II. viii., 131-138.

1857. *Aplocerus lanigera* J. Wilson, Encyc. Brit., ed. 8, XIV. 211.

1858. *Haplocerus montanus* Baird, Am. Journ Sci., XXVI. 145.

1869. *Aploceras montanus* Cooper, Am. Nat., II. 537-538.

1875. *Aplocerus columbianus* Coues & Yarrow, Wheeler Survey., V. 68.

1876. *Mazama montana* Gill, Int. Exhib., List Useful or Inj. Mamm., 5.

1878. *Haplocerus laniger* A. W.—Encyc. Brit., ed. 9, II. 102.

1895. *Oreamnos montanus* Merriam, Science, N. S., I. 19.

The following abstract of an address given by Dr. C. Hart Merriam before the Mazamas at the Auditorium in Portland, September 22, 1896, was considered so valuable for its suggestion of future lines of work for the society, that it is reprinted here.

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*Based mainly on Grinnell's synonymy in Forest & Stream, XXXIII. 384, Dec. 5, 1889.

†In speaking of the Mountain Goat, Rafinesque states: "This animal has been called *Ovis montana*, by Ord, but the genus *Ovis*, or rather *Aries*, has hollow and flat horns: this species, with the following and the *Mazama puda*, will form a particular subgenus (or perhaps genus), which I shall call *Oreamnos*, distinguished by the horns slightly curved backwards or outwards, often rough or annulated, and long hair, besides living in mountains."

The Field of the Mazamas.

"MAZAMAS: You have chosen a field in which your labors, your example and your influence are bound to benefit your fellow men. Your officers in their brief addresses have said many wise things. They have urged you to let your outings bear fruit—to contribute to the sum of human knowledge—and you have responded with an earnestness of purpose that is a credit to yourselves and to your State. As mountain climbers and explorers you have increased our knowledge of the geography and topography of the Northwest and stimulated the collection of accurate information respecting its natural history and resources. The first number of your publication, "Mazama," contains a fund of useful information, and, if I am correctly informed, the second will be even more valuable. These publications, of which you may well be proud, will carry the name and fame of the Mazamas to many lands and will give you rank among the useful scientific societies of the world.

In your summer excursions, go where you will, you cannot fail to be impressed by the need for better maps. You should keep this need perpetually before the eyes of your friends and legislators, and should exert your influence individually and collectively to secure more accurate topographic surveys and more reliable maps. Good contour maps form a basis for the intelligent development of a country. They are useful to every citizen who can read and write; they are of service to the ranchman and miner in locating their claims; they are money in the pocket of the railroad corporation seeking to lay out new lines, and of the shrewd merchant who understands the principles of commercial geography; they are indispensable to the scientist, the statistician and the political economist who desire to plat the results of their investigations. Without them it is impossible to show graphically the distribution of animals and plants, the position of coal fields and other mineral deposits, the relation of climatic conditions and soils to successful agriculture, the distribution of forests, deserts, and irrigable lands, the distribution of religions, nationalities, populations, and wealth, and the distribution of industries and productions with reference to the underlying conditions which determine the commercial success or failure of human enterprise. Who has not seen capital wasted and energy expended without return, for lack of knowledge of fundamental truths that may be learned from the intelligent study of accurate statistical and commercial maps? In short, good maps are worth ten times what they cost. They are needed by every one from the school child to the oldest citizen; our educational system is incomplete without them, and it should be considered discreditable to any commonwealth to neglect their construction. By cooperating with the general Government and paying half the cost of the field work, any state or territory may secure for itself the best possible large scale contour maps of its domain. A number of states have already availed themselves of this privilege. Cannot the *Mazamas* exert their united influence in having Oregon mapped under the same law?

But your field is not limited to 'geography'—at least in the old sense. The 'National Geographic Society,' of which some of you are valued members, has five departments: Geography of the Land, Geography of the Sea, Geography of the Air, Geography of Life, and Commercial Geography. These several departments embrace pretty much all the natural sciences—including geology, zoology, botany, meterorology and so on. Should the scope of the *Mazamas* be any less comprehensive? Few

of you are trained in the paths of natural science, but all of you are energetic, wide awake, intelligent men and women—no others could be *Mazamas*—and in your outings you can *observe* nature and record what you see.

What naturalists need from little known parts of the land is a simple record of observations relating to the plants and animals. For instance, it is easily within the power of the *Mazamas* to tell us what trees grow on Mounts Adams and St. Helens, whether or not Goats, Sheep, or Marmots inhabit the summits of these mountains; and, if Marmots occur there, whether they are the yellowish brown kind like those on Mount Mazama and Mount Hood, or the monstrous hoary-gray kind like those on Rainier. Simple facts like these are genuine additions to knowledge and well worth recording. You have already given us lists of the plants of Hood and Adams, thereby making important contributions to botanical literature. Let it be your aim to do still more of this good work in future, and to go a step further by adding brief notes under the head of each species so we may know the zone it inhabits and the kind of place in which it may be found.

You are doing noble work in promoting the advancement of knowledge and encouraging scientific investigation in a land where for years to come commercial activity must necessarily dominate the more intellectual pursuits. It speaks well for Oregon that so early in her development she can boast an organization so potent for good. But you must not rest on your oars. You have a purpose and a task, and there is much uphill work before you. You should not only foster scientific inquiry and become the acknowledged center of information respecting the geography and natural history of your State; you should also strive to secure the erection of a state Museum, where your ethnological treasures, your geological strata, and your exceedingly interesting fauna and flora may be represented.

What is needed is not a heterogeneous assemblage of relics and specimens of animals and plants from all parts of the earth, but a *representative* collection of the natural history of the Northwest. Such a museum need not be housed, at first, in a costly building, nor need its support be an appreciable tax on the commonwealth. If thought advisable a small admission fee might be made to cover the cost of its administration. Oregon needs such a museum to display her natural resources and productions; you need such a museum for consultation; your children need such a museum as one of the educational advantages to which they are entitled. The educational value of properly arranged and labeled collections cannot be overestimated, and the time is not far distant when well selected types of the various groups of animals, plants, and minerals will be considered necessary adjuncts to our schools. Already the advantage of object lessons in natural science is universally recognized, and teachers, perhaps more than any other class of persons, must have access to collections for reference and study. It is not essential to begin on a large scale, for few things grow more rapidly than museums, when once the seed is fairly planted. Will not you, Mazamas, 'put your shoulder to the wheel' and establish the nucleus of a collection that will some day be the pride of Oregon?"

From MAZAMA, Vol. 1, No. 2, Oct., 1897

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The following bibliography (in addition to that on
will serve for reference to some of the more important t
have been published about Crater Lake. It does not pre
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